

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 02147 021414Z
ACTION NEA-10

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-----088623 021500Z /42
R 020735Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7220

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STADIS//////////

FOR NEA/IRN NAAS FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP OTRA
SUBJ: PROPOSED VIP VISITATION TO IRAN IN EARLY APRIL

1. YOU HAVE SEEN FROM OSAF MESSAGE, DTG 281500Z FEB 78, THAT AIR FORCE SECRETARY STETSON IS PROPOSING TO VISIT IRAN APRIL 5-10. WE RECEIVED THIS MORNING A MESSAGE FROM HQ DA, DTG 020013Z MAR 78, INDICATING THAT ARMY SECRETARY ALEXANDER PROPOSED TO VISIT IRAN APRIL 8-11. WE ALSO, AS YOU KNOW, WILL HAVE NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE (NWC) GROUP - 9 WITH US APRIL 9-12. ADDITIONALLY, SCS CHIEF GENERAL AZHARI WILL BE AWAY FROM HERE IN THE US FROM APRIL 4-12.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SECRETARY STETSON IS HOPING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE LOCAL WEEKEND TO TRAVEL DOWN COUNTRY APRIL 6-7. THUS, UNDER THE SCHEDULES AS PROPOSED FOR STETSON AND ALEXANDER, THE TWO SECRETARIES WOULD BOTH BE HERE APRIL 8 AND 9 EXPECTING TO DO BUSINESS. EVEN THOUGH ALEXANDER WILL HAVE AN ADDITIONAL DAY (APRIL 10) FOR BUSINESS, I THINK WE ARE OVERLOADING THE CIRCUIT WITH RESPECT TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IRANIANS IF BOTH SECRETARIES ARE HERE TOGETHER. IT MAY BE SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT SO SOON AFTER NOW RUZ TO SET UP THE MOST DESIRABLE SCHEDULE IN ANY EVENT, EVEN IF ONLY ONE SECRETARY IS HERE.

3. PART V OF THE OSAF MESSAGE ON STETSON NOTES THAT CLEARANCE APPROVAL HAS BEEN REQUESTED FROM ISA, STATE

AND THE WHITE HOUSE. THERE IS NO SUCH INDICATION IN THE MESSAGE ABOUT ALEXANDER'S PROPOSED VISIT. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD RAISE ALL OF THIS WITH THE AMBASSADOR WHEN HE RETURNS TO WASHINGTON MARCH 8 AND TRY AND GET IT SATISFACTORILY SORTED OUT WHILE HE IS THERE. THE MISSION, OF COURSE, STANDS READY TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAKE THE MOST SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS EVEN UNDER THE SCHEDULES NOTED IN PARA ONE ABOVE. AT THE SAME TIME, IT SEEMS TO US THAT HAVING THE OVERLAP IS GOING TO LEAD TO LESS THAN OPTIMUM RESULTS, AND PROBABLY DRIVE OUTGRACIOUS AND HOSPIABLE HOSTS PRETTY WELL ROUND THE BEND.

4. WE ARE STILL AWAITING A RESPONSE TO TEHRAN 1837 ABOUT NWC-9. WE WERE COMPLETELY SERIOUS IN THAT MESSAGE IN NOTING THAT UNLESS WE GET THE PARTICULARS IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS IT WILL BE VERY DIFFICULT TO PUT TOGETHER A USEFUL SCHEDULE. YOU WILL RECALL THAT THE SHAH WAS UNABLE TO SEE LAST YEAR'S GROUP, AND THAT WE HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN PUTTING TOGETHER A GOOD SCHEDULE. IT IS LIKELY THAT WE WILL HAVE COMPARABLE PROBLEMS THIS YEAR. HAVING THE TWO SECRETARIES HERE AT THE SAME TIME, AS PROPOSED, AS NWC-9 IS GOING TO COMPOUND OUR PROBLEMS WITH RESPECT TO THE NWC-9 SCHEDULE.

MIKLOS

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